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Board of Youth Services Minutes 1/4/12

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Meeting Minutes Board of Youth Services January 4, 2012

Present: Elizabeth Oppedisano; Lynn Horgan; Carlene Newell; Mary Coakley-Welch; Lori Talanian; Ann Horgan; Joan Axelrod; Joan Robbio; Phyllis Brown; Lauren Boyle; Malachy Shaw-Jones

Welcome - Happy New Year

Welcome to Malachy Shaw-Jones: Worked with adolescents in residential; now private practice; twins at the high school;

Bobby Bongiorno will be resigning from the Board due to his new commitments in Bedford; thank you Bobby for all your support and years of service and good luck in the new job; and

review minutes from November: minutes typos corrected and unanimously accepted.

Updates from Christine

Budget overview: Christine, Phyllis, Patti and Juliet met with town manager and reviewed the past year (see handout of budget);

- great increase in revenues from insurance this year;
- revenues are covering fee-for-service as well as some staff costs;
- asked for some increase in CDBG funding to cover to cover costs of care for low income kids whose insurance isn't covering their care; and
- Due to 501C3, the Board cannot donate to other organizations

Updates from Chair

Thanksgiving Food Drive and Holiday Help This year we were able to provide a meal and gift cards to approximately 90 families for the thanksgiving holiday.

The Holiday Help elves provided gifts and gift cards to 128 families and 256 children were "adopted".



Facility (Senior Center) worked well.

Gift Fund : Proposed gift fund policy reviewed and amended: motion to accept: Joan Robbio;
second: Lori Talanian; unanimously accepted.

Justine Bloch – women's soccer tournament has a fundraiser set for May/June

Phyllis and Lynn met with her; she would like to designate to a specific purpose; will be meeting
with Christine to discuss details later this week.

"Retirement" party for Mary Deyst and Elaine Shea Carlene, Lynn, Joan, Christine, Phyllis (Christine
will organize)

Fundraising:

Letters to local banks: Christine has drafted two initial applications to banks;

Christine proposes an annual plan/calendar for fundraising; and

General letter to go out to our supporters in October.

Outreach:

Letter to local Medical Offices – Pediatricians

AYCC Update – Phyllis

Juliet has been tenacious in tracking insurance monies;

No show policy: non-Mass. Health no-shows are charged \$50/hr.; taking data about whether this
increases attendance;

Up to 144 clients

Hired a substance abuse counselor through CHNA grant; trying to find strategies about how to
engage resistant substance abusers

Starting several groups: Parents of children with behavior disorders; Kids with social skills issues;
METCO group; high school kids with anxiety disorders

Two clinicians work with kids in the alternative program at the high school

Doug (psychologist) is developing a Bridge-BUILDER program to develop a peer-guided anti-bullying
program at the high school

Committee Reports - Updates

January 11th : Parent Workshop: Mindfulness in education –Adam Liss

SADD day went well

Adjourn

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